drawing via this Preliminary Amendment in lieu of responding to the Notice of Omitted Item(s).

In addition, please replace paragraph [0033] with the paragraph below to correct a spelling error in the original filing:

[0033] Pinion wheels 18 are shown in Figures 11a-c, and consist of pinion wheel sides 84 attached radially with pinion wheel hub 80. A plurality of pinion pins 82 are disposed between pinion wheel sides 84 at a point between pinion wheel hub 18 and the outer radius of pinion wheel sides 84, and are held in place thereby. The actual number, size and spacing of pinion pins 82 may be varied without departing from the spirit of the invention, and is dependent upon, among other factors, the size and weight of blade plate 16. The spacing, size and frequency of slots 17 in the linear racks located along the sides of blade plate 16 must, of course, correspond with the frequency, size and shape of pinion pins 82 in pinion wheels 18. Additionally, hub 80 may be optional; pinion wheel sides 18 may be attached directly to the shaft of a motor or geared driv drive.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner contact the Applicant's attorney whose contact information is listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis M. Carleton Reg. No. 40,938

Buchanan Ingersoll One Oxford Center, 20th Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 562-1895

Attorney for Applicant